

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 BIB-01

NIC-01 /081 W

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P R 111640Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 613

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB XB ILO

SUBJECT: SECOND EAST-WEST EUROPEAN TRADE UNION

CONFERENCE, FEB 28-MARCH 1, 1975

REF: A-OSLO 121; B- PARIS 1019; C- HELSINKI 2007

1. SUMMARY: SUBJECT CONFERENCE IS NOT UNDER ILO AUSPICIES BUT IS

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PRIVATE MEETING SPONSORED BY FOUR EUROPEAN WORKERS MEMBERS OF ILO

GOVERN BODY. ATTENDANCE IS BY INVITATION AND IT WILL BE CLOSED TO PRESS AND PUBLIC. BLAND TECHNICAL AGENDA AND LOW POSTURE OF SOVIETS GIVE MEETING HARMLESS APPEARANCE BUT REAL SIGNIFICANCE WILL LIE IN FOLLOW-UP, ESPECIALLY IF SOVIETS SUCCEED IN CONVINCING OTHERS OF NEED FOR SOME SORT OF FORMAL STRUCTURE TO ACCOMMODATE SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. END SUMMARY.

2. CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD UNDER PERSONAL AUSPICES OF EUROPEAN WORKERS REPRESENTATIVES ON ILO GOVERNING BODY (USSR-PIMENOV; U.K.-PLANT; FRG-MUHR; AND NORWAY-SUNDE). ATTENDANCE IS BY INVITATION ONLY, AND THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WILL BE EXCLUDED. ALTHOUGH IT MEETS ON EVEN OF GOVERNING BODY SESSION, CONFERENCE IS NOT AN ILO MEETING AND ILO STANDING ORDERS WILL NOT APPLY. PARTICIPANTS WILL PAY THEIR OWN EXPENSES AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS WILL REIMBURSE THE ILO FOR EXTRA COSTS OF INTERPRETATION, TRANSLATION AND DOCUMENTATION. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE OF HIGHER RANK THAN SPONSORING GB MEMBERS; SHELEPIN(AUCCTU), VETTER (DGB), AND MURRAY AND JACK JONES (TUC) ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND. AGENDA HAS TWO ITEMS; (1) HUMANIZATION OF WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND (2) PROTECTION OF WORKERS FROM EFFECTS OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES.

3. ILO STAFF MEMBERS IN CHARGE OF WORKERS RELATIONS, HAROLD DUNNING SEES CONFERENCE AS PART OF SOVIET STRATEGY TO FOSTER FORMAL REGIONAL EUROPEAN TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE ILO AND TO GRADUALLY INCREASE SOVIET INFLUENCE ON WESTERN EUROPEAN LABOR MOVEMENTS. ANOTHER PURPOSE OF SOVIET STRATEGY IS TO ISOLATE WE FROM US AND CANADIAN LABOR MOVEMENTS. DUNNING ALSO SEES POSSIBILITY NEXT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE GENEVA, PERHAPS IN HELSINKI OR VIENNA. DALE

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